IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

: Lövqvist et al.

Serial No.

: TBA

Filed

: February 13, 2002

For

: NEW CRYSTALLINE FORM OF OMEPRAZOLE

Examiner

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Michael lamos

Box Patent Application

Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the referenced application as

follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Insert the following paragraph on page 1 after the title:

--This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/640,097, filed August 15, 2000, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/202,251, filed December 10, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,150,380, issued November 21, 2000, which is a 371 of PCT/SE98/02028, filed November 10, 1998.--

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-14 are pending. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-14 are directed to patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants request allowance of the claims.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fee in connection with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: Feb 13, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Fessak Reg. No. 48,528 Agent for Applicants

Customer No. 007470

Agent Direct Dial: (212) 819-8437